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### MEDIUM

VOLUME 28 ISSUE 2

September, 10, 2001

### ECSU welcomes Frosh

### UTM holds Orientation 2001

BY ASTRID POEI

This year's Orientation Week – an event held to welcome new students to university life – has come and gone with success.

Organized by the Erindale College Student Union (ECSU), orientation began at the University of Toronto at Mississauga (UTM) with Administration's Academic Orientation followed by events held by the UTM Athletic Council (UTMAC).

This year, an estimated 650 frosh (including leaders) participated in the three-day event. Although it was 50 more frosh than last year, it was not nearly as much as ECSU had hoped. "We sent out some 1,700 flyers and I believe around 550 frosh [signed up]," said Services Coordinator Danielle MacDonald, who organized UTM's orientation week. "I had a very tough time getting leaders this year Nobody wanted to do it. I think a lot of it has to do with the fact that the people who used [volunteer] all the time, have graduated, so they don't want to do it anymore."

"I really wish that we didn't have to charge frosh leaders a \$55 fee," MacDonald said. "But we were expecting 80 frosh leaders and I can't really afford to give 80 people frosh kits for free. So we had to charge them something, especially when we have pants and T-shirts. The kits are full of stuff and prices are going up. Inflation prices for Centre Island and the events that we've done previously have just gone up. So we had no choice.

Personally, I didn't want to [charge] and I'm sure that nobody in the past has wanted to. But it's just something that has to be done."

According to MacDonald, ECSU will later determine later if orientation cost them any financial loss.

MacDonald acknowledged that some people who usually don't participate in frosh actually participated this year. "We had two people in wheelchairs and the great thing is that it's completely wheelchair accessible, we've made sure that everything is going to run smoothly with that, so I'm very happy with that. I don't know if there's ever been anyone who participated in a wheelchair in the past. I think people with disabilities are discouraged from participating in events like this. But I sent out a notice that said 'anybody can participate in frosh. It doesn't matter if you have a disability, we'll accommodate you no matter what.'

Orientation took frosh to the St. George campus where MacDonald said, "It's always fun to go down there. But I just think some things need to be changed."

This year, the annual UTM versus Scarborough campus soccer match at Varsity Stadium was cancelled, due to poor planning on Scarborough's part. Fortunately, MacDonald was able to switch a later scheduled event to replace the cancelled soccer match.

"There is definitely a lot of miscommunication between us and downtown. I had no idea what was going on. Nicole [Phillips, SAC Erindale Chair] did not know what was going on. It was hard to get a hold of SAC people who knew what was going on. But the frosh didn't really

**U of T Orientation continued on page 3** 

Frosh Linin' up for Food

## Academic Offences plague UTM

BY TAMARA SULLIMAN

UTM continues to battle the frequent occurrence of student academic offences.

Administration and faculty want to understand why incidences of cheating, specifically plagiarism, continue to persist at Erindale.

The three faculty Deans, Michael Lettieri of Humanities, Gary Crawford of Social Sciences and Robert Baker of Sciences, feel that the majority of students and commit the academic crimes knowingly.

"The behaviour is unethical as well as illegal. Many students are flagrantly violating the code with full knowledge of what they are doing. They make the choice and then get caught and accept the consequences.

"Some simply are ignorant about what constitutes plagiarism so we need to continue to be vigitant and continue to educate about the problem. There is no justification for the ignorance. The problem is that students run up against deadlines, panic, and do something they shouldn't. We try hard to contain the problem," the Deans said in an issued statement.

"We want to provide assistance to students who do not know the

PAcademic continued on page 3



The smoking room in the Blind Duck Pub will no longer photo/Melissa Vergo be used as a smoking room because of the new municipal law. Smokers are going to freeze this winter.

### Smoking banned in the Blind Duck Pub

### By-law prevents smoking in the pub

By Sylvia Nalli-Petta and Tamara Sulliman

Today, when the Blind Duck Pub opens for the 2001-2002 school year, students wishing to smoke will not be able to do so, as the pub becomes entirely smoke free in accordance with a new Mississauga city by law.

The by-law stipulates: "As of June 1. 2001, all eating establishments, including restaurants, dinner theatres, banquet halls and food courts, as well as all recreational facilities must be entirely smoke free or have a fully enclosed 'Designated Smoking Room' (DSR)." Designated Smoking Rooms are required to be fully enclosed and separately ventilated and while the pub is equipped with one, it is not up to the standards of the Board of Health.

The by-law goes on to say: "As of June 1, 2004, all taverns, bars, night clubs as well as bingo halls must also become entirely smoke-free or have a fully enclosed DSR"

"We have to ask ourselves,
'How can we serve a population and encourage those
who drink to drink responsibly and to provide a fun and
engaging space for those
who don't"

- Mark Overton

According to Maxine Dawkins Blind Duck Pub' manager, bringing it up to code would require a \$35,000 price tag which she says is not feasible and might prove unnecessary should the city decide to follow Ottawa's example and get rid of DSRs altogeth-

"The city might decide to make all establishments entirely smoke free, in which case any money spent on improving a DSR will have been used for nothing," said Dean of Student Affairs Mark Overton.

Ottawa currently implements some of the strictest anti-smoking regulations in the country and, in a bid to crack down on wayward bar owners, enforces a team of 16 by-law officers to patrol establishments and issue fines to those caught breaking the law.

According to the Region of Peel (www.region peel.on.ca), plans to make establishments smoke-free has been in the works since 1998, when the "local municipalities of Brampton, Caledon and Mississauga endorsed the Medical Officer of Health's declaration that second-hand smoke is a serious health hazard and amended existing by-laws to require that all public places and workplaces be smoke-free

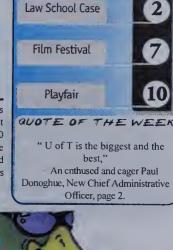
Smoking continued on page 3

Inside



Frosh line up for Bar-B-Que in front of the Student Centre. Long lines are a common sight at UTM during the first week of school.

photo/ Melissa Verge



What's





The Faculty of Law downtown has been under contoversy for a while now.

### Law School Student takes university to court

Courts lift suspension on accused student

By Tamara Sulliman

Last March, 25 U of T law school students were found to have misrepresented their fall semester marks to Bay Street law firms. The Dean of the Faculty of Law

Ron Daniels suspended the students for one year for breaking the 'Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters' on forging of an academic record.

Now one of the University of Toronto students accused of misrepresenting her marks will be allowed to enroll in classes

Roxanne Shank challenged the Dean's decision. On August 31, the court granted Shank a stay, allowing her to enroll in classes. The stay will remain in effect pending the verdict of the case.

Law Student continued on page 4

### New faces in administration at UTM

By Tamara Sulliman

UTM can expect to see new faces in administration.

Paul Donoghue takes over as Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) and Mary Ann Mavrinac becomes the new Chief

Donoghue, fresh from spending ten years as the CAO in the Faculty of Health Sciences at McMaster University, is excited about working at UTM. "I love [UTM] already. U of T is the biggest and the best," he said about his first month

Donoghue, is enthusiastic about UTM's growth plans and enrolment increases for UTM in the future.

"I look forward to the challenges that face UTM in the near future. There is an increase in complexity in terms of challenges. The double cohort (the extra students expected to attend university when the provincial government eliminates OAC) is just one of the challenges ahead for UTM. There is also the steady increase (of one percent) in the age cohort for those eligible for university. Also, there is a one percent increase in the take up rate – those choosing to go to university every year," said Donoghue.

"All of these factors together focus on the large pressure for increase in student population at UTM."

Donoghue reflected on the building expansion for UTM in order to deal with

photo courtesy of Paul Donoghue New Chief Administrative Officer -Paul Donoghue

the double cohort.

"I am working with Principal McNutt on the finalization of implementation of Plan 2004. We ask ourselves, 'Where do we want UTM to go?' At present, we are looking at plans to expand Physical Education Facilities, the Library and the Communications Culture Information and Technology (CCIT) Department and looking at the possibility of construction of Residence Phase Eight. We want to see how best we can utilize the existing

Donoghue said that he is currently looking at expanding the faculty and staffing at UTM and in particular, building the staffing infrastructure for Physical dent growth population and the building expansion.

"We are looking at a development of strategies that allows us to be competent. While we may be the biggest and the best, we are not the only ones looking to recruit faculty. We want to attract more students. Quality to education is central to what we do and I want to ensure that we have the best faculty at UTM," he said.

Mary Ann Mavrinac came to UTM on July 5 to serve as Chief Librarian, She hails from Western University where she served as Chief Librarian for 18 years at the W.B. Weldon Library.

Mavrinac said she feels prepared for the projected growth increases for UTM and the impact the growth will have for . UTM's library.

"I am prepared for it. It's still in the planning stages but we're well under way in preparing for the 50 percent growth increase in student enrolment expected for UTM. From my 18 years at Western University, I've gained experience with capital projects similar to this one at UTM. It's exciting to see how a building comes together - all the planning and effort that goes into huge projects such as building a new library. It's just wonderful," said Mavrinac.



Newly Appointed Chief Librarian -Mary-Ann Mavrinac

just wonderful," said Mavrinac.

Mavrinac stressed the imminent need for a new library at UTM. In a proposal for the UTM website, she described the current library facility as outdated.

"The library was built for another time. It is outmoded. It does not adequately serve our students and faculty. It is no longer a credit to this institution. It is a credit to the service provided by library staff that there are over 630,000 visits to the library per year, and this, against a backdrop of remote access to

electronic resources.' She said the driving force behind the emergency for a new library at UTM is the expected 50 percent student enrolment increase. She highlighted the reasons for the pressing need of a new and bigger library facility in the UTM website proposal.

"Study space is inadequate...study space [in the library] does not provide the type of space needed for collaborative learning or the use of electronic resources. Accessibility is an issue where 60 percent of the current space, including the stacks, the computing lab and washrooms are not accessible. Space for services and information technology is cramped or non-existent, with no room for flexibility and expansion," she wrote.

Mavrinac looks forward to receiving feedback from students as to what they want in the library. "It's always about the students and what they want or need in the library. I need to have feedback from them to know how to plan the expansion of the library facilities as Erindale.'

# information for you!

If you'd like a more active role on the UTM Commission, you can become a co-opted member, email utm@sac.utoronto.ca

If you'd like to volunteer to help with events or projects, email utm@sac.utoronto.ca or look for our table during Clubs Week.

If you're interested in joining Blue Crew, contact promotions @sac.utoronto.ca

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### Academic offenders not taken lightly at UTM

not everybody knows

Academy"

- Cleo Boyd

quences can be steep

from other people"

Raymond Cummins

standards of plagiarism at the university level. The students, in particular the first-year students, need to be familiar with what is and what is not considered an academic offence," said Mark Overton, Dean of Student

"I think that we do a decent job providing information to that recently, in most know what is wrong but first-year courses, professors are adding a supplement to the syllabus handed to the students on the first day of class discussing academic offences - plagiarism in particular."

Erindale College Students' Union (ECSU) College Commissioner Matt Sullivan feels that the problem is that some students are misinformed about their rights as stated under the 'Code of Behavior on Academic Matters'

"Students need to be aware of their rights under the code and [ECSU] is responsible for dealing with academic concerns and making it clearer for students to understand their rights," he said.

"I have been speaking to the Academic Skills Centre on how to deal with certain problems, how to prevent cheating or plagiarizing and how to create awareness.

Students' Administrative Council (SAC) Erindale Chair, Nicole Phillips, thinks that it is necessary that students be made more aware of how not to break the 'Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters'.

"Sometimes students are not aware that there are different rules or methods for doing projects or papers. Some courses, professors and faculties are different - each have their own stipulations and preferences.

"I think it would be good for students to have a source to refer to and to get information of where to go to find out the particular rules," she said.

Erick Mckinlay said that ECSU has already struck dialogue with various members of administration to

attempt to alleviate the situation.

"I'm starting discussion and taking action with regards to academic issues. I have discussed these issues with the three faculty Deans (Lettieri, Baker and Crawford) and the Director of the Academic Skills Centre, Cleo Boyd, and they are very pleased with my interest and are happy to be able to help me out," he said.

"At the start of my campaign to get everyone on board, I spoke to Mark [Overton]. He liked my plans and is now helping me schedule a meeting with everyone mentioned."

Boyd feels that some students who commit academic offences are not aware that they are doing so until after they are caught.

"They are simply not aware - they are not quite sure in their own minds of what exactly constitutes an academic offence," she said.

Boyd said that the transition from high school to university could be one explanation as to why some first-year students may commit academic

"First year students get together to collaborate on projects like how they did in high school and don't know

that this is wrong at the university level.

"The situation changes in university. One culture teaches them to interact honestly with each other and the next culture tells them that this is wrong. I am specifically talking about the people trying to interact honestly

but don't know the correct procedures. I "I think sometimes the think sometimes the the students. I know University expects them to university expects them to know what is wrong but not everybody knows what what exactly is considexactly is considered an offence by the ered an offence by the said Academy," Boyd.

Boyd thinks that miscommunication is the problem and believes that it is the

responsibility of each instructor to define what academic honesty is in their class.

"The faculty needs to communicate on this issue. Nobody is at fault but there is definitely miscommunication. I do think, however, that there are students who do intentionally cheat."

Boyd spoke about a particular case where a senior student in her mid 40s took courses over a period of many

"One year she took a course in a department with rigid rules and wrote a paper as she normally would - cutting and pasting different paragraphs from different books. Of course, it was plagiarism but she had no idea that she had been plagiarizing before because nobody told her. She had not deliberately tried to plagiarize,' described Boyd.

Botany professor Ray Cummins said there has been less cheating on exams than plagiarism committed by students in his courses. He also expressed his disappointment at students who commit plagiarism intentionally.

"I tend to frown on it quite a bit

and I get very upset. It is a tragedy when it "It is a tragedy when it happens and the conhappens and the conse- sequences can be steep but you can't steal ideas from other nes, she said.

ECSU President but you can't steal ideas people. It is easier now to catch offenders with search engines such as 'Google' where you just type in the phrase that you think looks

questionable and if there is a webpage it was taken from, it will find it."

U of T recently implemented the new computer science program MOSS (Measure of Software Similarity). MOSS is a cheating detection program that looks at all programming assignments and looks at the actual structure of a program for similarities and ignores word

Overton thinks that students who have infringed on the Code have been treated justly depending on the crime committed.

"In general, I haven't seen anything that's considered to be an abuse of the code. The university uses the code to make sure that each student is treated fairly," he said.

In their statement, the three faculty Deans send a message to students: "Students should not be silent if they know someone or some group who is violating the code. Students who cheat are taking unfair advantage and everyone is affected. The reputation of U of T is a concern to us all. We investigate all allegations with vigor but we need the facts."

### of T Orientation not quite a success

seem to mind. It was just a lot of standing around time, while we were trying to figure out what was going on. It was a lot of down time that shouldn't have been there. There were a lot of delays and I don't know if they were like that because I wasn't informed of anything. I was given approximate times of when things were going on. We were not informed of certain things such as Varsity Arena staff cutting off our wristbands. We had to make some quick judgments on what we were going to do," said Macdonald.

The cutting of wristbands on the second night was a problem because ECSU still had their own events to run on the third day. MacDonald said, "[St. George's eventl was a set back and it didn't run nearly as well as it should have. But no one personally came up to me and com-

Despite the disorganization of St. George's event, near the end of the orien-

Christine King, Sarah Anderson and Francine St-Pierre said that, "The parade was awesome. ECSU was awesome. Our frosh leaders were so good. They had so much spirit. And they got into everything. It was above and beyond anything I expected. And they felt horrible about [downtown]. They just need to know that none of us hold them accountable for [downtown]. They were all about us having a great time and that was their main concern. ECSU deserves a huge thank you from all the frosh."

ECSU President Erick McKinlay was delighted with the way frosh turned out. "Yes, there were some problems, but I was responsible for the security at Centre Island and I was very happy with how everything turned out. The frosh were excellent, well mannered and well behaved. I think everyone enjoyed that night. And [on the last day] they enjoyed the VIBE barbecue. I think the frosh enjoyed it as a whole," he said.

"The majority of the frosh leaders are amazing," said MacDonald in appreciation of everyone who participated. "They have so much energy. They were going through the cheers [with the frosh] and I've never heard Erindale so loud and so crazy. It was just amazing.' [See sports section for related story.] BRITISH

PUBFARE



here goes the frosh parading down town. UTM first-year students led the U of T frosh parade this year.

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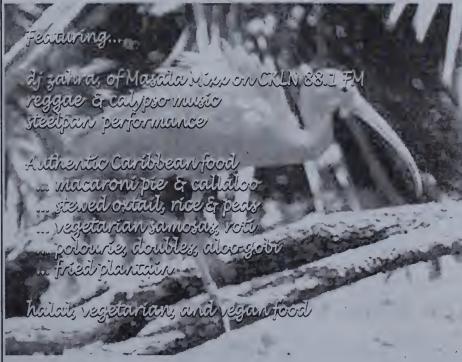
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### Smoking prohibited in the Pub

According to the Region of Peel (www.region.peel.on.ca), plans to make establishments smoke-free has been in the works since 1998, when the "local municipalities of Brampton, Caledon and Mississauga endorsed the Medical Officer of Health's declaration that second-hand smoke is a serious health hazard and amended existing by-laws to require that all public places and workplaces be smoke-free by 2001."

Verbal reminders and 'no smoking' signage will be utilized in the Blind Duck Pub in order to enforce the by- law. Dawkins said that the number of smokers in the pub has dropped and now only a small percentage of Blind Duck patrons light up. "On a full pub night (first pub night for example), around 20 percent of the people are smok-

the patio, that option becomes less inviting as the nights become colder.

"We've looked into having patio heaters installed, but it isn't feasible when they cost around \$9,000 each and can only cover a group of around six to nine people at a time," explained ECSU Vice President of Finance Mary Halopulos.

President of Vice Administration Adil Mirza said that, at this point, the pub has to consider its most

"I feel bad for the smokers but non smokers have a right to clean air. It's something that has been under a lot of discussion and we're looking at what's feasible right now and what

we are able to imple- "...students come not only affected by the by ent," he said.
ECSU President Erick because they smoke but also Overton said that ment," he said.

some students might be affected negatively by

this new law. "Some students will be affected by the fact that [the pub] has

become non-smoking. We hope to make the pub a great and successful place for students," he said.

Underage patrons might also be on the rise, as Halopulos noted a range of differ-

ent ages in the stu-"I feel bad for the smokers dents taking part in this year's frosh activi-And while students can smoke outside on but non smokers have a right ties, some as young as 16 years old. Currently, the Blind Duck is classed as a "Class A Public

> Place" (a building used for sale and service of food and drink) in order to allow those under 19 on the premises.

> Halopulos went on to say that there was an increase in student interest concerning campus activities and that she is "optimistic about the potential of the building (Student Centre) this year."

Although it is too soon to tell how

UTM pub goers will react to the new antismoking rules, Halopulos pointed out that many students "don't consider the pub a normal bar or restaurant" as it is on university grounds and physically removed from

other establishments

Mckinlay also noted that because they have spirit and the Pub faces a greater challenge due want to support the pub" to the smoking ban - Erick Mckinlay and the growth in underage student

population but is confident that they will be able to overcome the obstacle.

"Like any other restaurant that wants to serve a population less than 19, we have to work through that. I think we can do things to make it exciting and new. It will be more challenging," he said.

"We have to ask ourselves, 'How can we serve a population and encourage those who drink to drink responsibly and to provide a fun and engaging space for those who don't."

When asked how the pub will be affected financially in the future because of the smoking ban, Mckinlay said, "to some extent there will be some sort of effect. But students come not only because they smoke but also because they have spirit and want to support the pub. However, I understand it can be affected financially."

As for any foreseeable effects on the business end, Dawkins simply stated, "I honestly don't know."

### Law Student takes Dean to court

continued from page 2

The Students' Administrative Council (SAC) officially intervened on behalf of Shank in the case against Dean Daniels and the University of Toronto as a Friend of the Court. SAC University Affairs commissioner, Agata Durkalec, said the lifting of the suspension indicates the court may rule in Shanks' favour.

"A temporary lifting of the suspension is a very positive interim result. The court could have chosen to take no action - instead, it decided to allow Shank to register for classes. We hope that this favourable decision will lead towards the sanction being overturned by the court," said Durkalec in a statement released to campus press

"Dean Daniel's decision is a gross overextension of the discipline power of the university. The consequences of the final ruling will have a profound effect on not only the 25 students directly involved in the case, but the remaining 54,000 students who are enrolled at the university," said Durkalec.

Susan Bloch-Nevitt, Public Affairs liaison for U of T, said Dean Daniels has the full support of the university.

"We have full accordance that the Faculty of Law has acted with the university and its policies. We absolutely support the decision made by Dean Daniels and believe that the court will also respect the decision," she said.

Interim SAC President Chris Allsop believes that the Dean did not treat the law students fairly and that this particular case will have a profound effect on how the university handles academic offences in the future. U of T law school administration handled the sanctions on the law students improperly in a manner that was detrimental to all U of T students. This one case will set a precedent for all other cases - all the other law students will follow along the lines of this student," said

SAC Erindale Chair Nicole Phillips lends her support to the law students along with her fellow board members.

"I'm glad SAC is getting involved with the law students' case. Both administration and students can misinterpret the 'Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters'. Sometimes, when administration interprets it, it's to the extreme and students need to be protected and, as in this case, SAC intervenes to represent the students," she said.

Durkalec is not sure when the verdict will be released but is hopeful of the out-

"The decision of the court is still pending and we hope that a decision will be reached within the next few weeks. We remain optimistic and positive," she

You can contact us at our email address: ecsu@hotmail.com



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### **EDITORIAL**

### MEDIUM

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### Smoked Duck?

The Blind Duck Pub has absorbed its share of torture and neglect ever since UTM moved it into the Student Centre. From drooping attendance at Pub Nights to higher rent to increased door staff (required to man the extra exits in the pub's new location), the Blind Duck has just bent over and taken it. And now that smoking is banned in the pub, its back may finally break.

We think it's good news that non-smokers will finally be able to breathe easier on Pub Nights but Pub Nights may not last very long if smokers stop going. The Duck closed on Thursday nights for a few weeks halfway through last year because the few people that showed up didn't give the pub enough revenue to cover the door and wait staff payroll. If smokers go somewhere else to light up on Thursday nights, the Duck is in serious trouble.

Pub Manager Maxine Dawkins estimates that 20 per cent of pubgoers (on a full night) are smokers – but, judging by the suffocating cloud that floats over the dance floor on full Pub Nights, that's probably a modest guess. People who don't smoke anywhere or anytime else indulge in cancer sticks at Pub Nights – after alcohol, nicotine has been the most consumed substance at Pub Nights. And now that smoking is banned in the pub, the very nature of Pub Nights will change – big time. Yes, we think it's a healthy change, but the adjustment will not be smooth – it will take time and patience. This is a huge transition and ECSU (which owns the Blind Duck) will have to suck up the loss of smokers. But who knows – maybe the new smoking ban will get some smokers to kick the habit. Maybe not.

The pub will probably have to deal with some backlash from students who won't hear about this new policy until the first time they go to pub. The pub will also have to work hard to enforce it. Whatever happens though, students can't blame the pub for the new atmosphere – it's a municipal bylaw. The only ways the pub could have kept smoking alive would have been:

Change the pub's status from 'restaurant' to 'bar.' But, in doing that, it couldn't ever admit anyone under the age of 19. A lot of first-year students aren't old enough to buy alcohol and shutting them out of the pub would be unfair – and stupid. First-year students are getting younger and younger and, in two years there'll be a ton of 'em.

- Keep the pub a 'restaurant' and make a separately ventilated smoking room. But doing that would be a waste of money. We can see what direction the government is headed – we just don't know how long it will be until it decides to cut smoking entirely. Spending \$35,000 to make a Designated Smoking Room wouldn't have made sense. Cut smoking now – take the hit and deal with it.

Install heaters on the patio outside. Since we don't have the luxury of warm weather through most of the school year, the Student Centre Management Board looked into making outdoor smoking in the winter more bearable. But it decided not to blow approximately \$17,000 to \$37,000 on outdoor heaters.

While we think students and administration made good choices, we hope they will be committed to making the best of this potentially disastrous situation. We hope ECSU and administration will keep the pub's well-being high on their priority lists. It was students and administrators who decided to relocate the pub from the old portable to the Student Centre, so both are responsible for making the place as successful as it used to be – and quick. If they don't, the Duck is dead. We also hope students will realize that if they don't start supporting the pub, they'll lose it.

The pub has suffered enough in the Student Centre – we just hope that the recent demolition of the old beloved pub building isn't a sign that the good times are over.

The Medium is published weekly by Medium II Publications, a non-profit, incorporated student organization. The opinions expressed within are those of the writers and editors and do not necessarily reflect those of Medium II Publications. The Medium's mandate includes informing students of local and national concerns, and giving Erindale College students an opportunity to practice journalism. National advertising provided exclusively by Campus Network. Drunken answering machine messages courtesy of hastystudents.com.

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### Former Rez student says U of T all about cash

re: "Senior students not valuable to UTM?" September 4, 2001

Dear Editor

It is obvious to me, as a senior student, that the University of Toronto is about one thing, and one thing alone: money. Profits. Cash. The green stuff. This was already evident to me through the school's dealings with Aramark, rising tuition, the disgusting price of textbooks through our lovely college bookstore, and the TA salary dispute. Now, having been thrown out on my ass and told to find another place to live, it is even more apparent.

I'm currently entering fourth year at UTM and I have been on residence since the summer after my first year, May 1999. I stay year round, taking courses in the summer. I've kicked in a good...well, over \$10,000 to UTM residence. Besides, this year, when I did my deferral late due to my grandfather nearly dying, I have always been prompt with payments. I have never had police reports lodged against me. I'm an Honours student in the top of my program.

Apparently, however, this means nothing. And given the "money is all" artitude of this university, why should it matter that I almost had to delay my final year of studies for lack of a home? Hell, why should it matter that my summer roommate, a student entering fourth year whose family lives in Pakistan, almost had to leave school (so much for considering distance a factor). I only pay \$3,600 per year. The frosh are paying over \$4000 this year. The truth is, the policy of guaranteeing frosh space serves a single purpose: maximizing profits. This way, U of T can expect to receive more acceptance letters from invited frosh. After all, they are promised space on campus. Further, because rez amounts are locked in from first year on, and increase yearly, the fresh blood provides more money. They are, after all, paying more than the senior

students. Enough to buy a few overpriced textbooks, that's for sure. UTM can wring its hands and proclaim they are tied all they like, but the truth is, the profits are pleasing to the eye.

I was essentially told that, in spite of the untrue reasons listed on my rejection letter (police reports, not paying fees), I was really let go because a member of my house had dropped out. These housemates were not friends – I am forced every year to find three other people and hope they are responsible. I was punished for someone else's mistake. I've always wondered why it is so hard for the residence office to just throw people into houses. Why must we do their work when we pay them? I was told this with six weeks to find a new home. Six weeks. Mid-July. I found no help from the "guy and girl" hired to help us. I found a place myself, settled for a basement bachelor apartment which is scarcely larger than a residence room, where fridge, stove and futon all co-exist. I now have to pay for transit to commute. Perhaps Mississauga Transit is in on this scheme? They're certainly about to profit.

Phase Seven should have been completed by now. The expected double cohort figure is way off. I entered university at 17. I graduated from high school in four years, having fast-tracked my way through OACs like another 80 or so classmates. The trend has been increasing towards fast-tracking. Why could UTM administration not see this? Many of the frosh who are assured their spaces won't be back. But U of T doesn't mind—it makes more room for more frosh. And that means more money.

A fellow student said it best two years ago: "All I'm getting from this school is the University of Toronto name on my degree." Thank you Adam Giles, for expressing what we have all been thinking and feeling since the rejection letters poured in.

T. Hiles-Fleet, a fourth-year Psychology specialist and Crime & Deviance major

#### Former Rez student concerned about future

re: "Senior students not valuable to UTM?" September 4, 2001

Dear Editor,

After two years on Residence, I've had good times and bad times. Having read about the future of Residence in the Medium, I've decided to add my thoughts. Adam Giles wrote an opinion on the senior students situation for residence but made a strong point about not being a residence student himself.

Move-in day in my first year was a mad house, with students moving in from all walks of life, family and luggage in tow. I remember meeting my don Sylvia, and head don Christina Hosien, who got me a spot even though I was on a waiting list. They made me feel welcome. I was less intimidated and even though I felt homesick for the first time in my life, it was easier to cope. Even with the wild parties and multitudes of guests at house 15, I got through my first year. Moments like the 'Colman Classic' and Residence formals made it fun.

The next year I got a spot in Residence but the 'troubles' began. We had a group of four, just like they wanted. But one of my friends was not let back. We were told only in July that we may not get on unless they found a student to substitute. We had no say all of a sudden and the hunt for off-campus housing began. They found us a substitute and everything was fine. The thing that got me is that they insisted the substitute be a

first-year student. Other seniors turned away were replaced with first-year students (all the way up to Phase Four, where first-year students don't usually live). My concerns about housing mounted.

I've worked with both residence council and the main office on numerous occasions. On my own time, I've helped with everything from Residence formals and hockey tournaments to services like the grocery bus. The staff is great and I still keep in touch with some of the council. I have no regrets about living on campus for two years. But I decided to leave on my own terms after two years. 'Time to part ways,' I thought.

Would I think differently if residence was more helpful in keeping senior students? Maybe. The path they're taking worries me. Accepting all frosh before senior students will hurt frosh in the long run. Where will that senior presence be to help make the frosh welcome on Residence? I made friends with dons and older residence students alike. And where will those frosh go once they're deemed 'old' enough to find off-campus residence? What if they're foreign students

as well, in a strange new country with only a year to learn? It's also upsetting to consider that this campus is becoming more of a commuter school, because that adds to the apathy that already haunts this school's spirit.

The changes of fewer fourth-year students allowed on residence and increasing their distance from campus don't look like good choices. It will reduce eligibility for Residence to younger students and students who live farther away from campus. Is it wise to distance residence from students like this? There are so many questions – most lead to less than positive answers.

Magazines like 'MacLeans' rank the universities every year. I picked UTM because U of T is consistently ranked number one. The level of education is great (so don't get me wrong), but do those magazines rank universities based on residence situations or school spirit?

It seems that people are not getting the full story. And when they do, I'm afraid it may be too late.

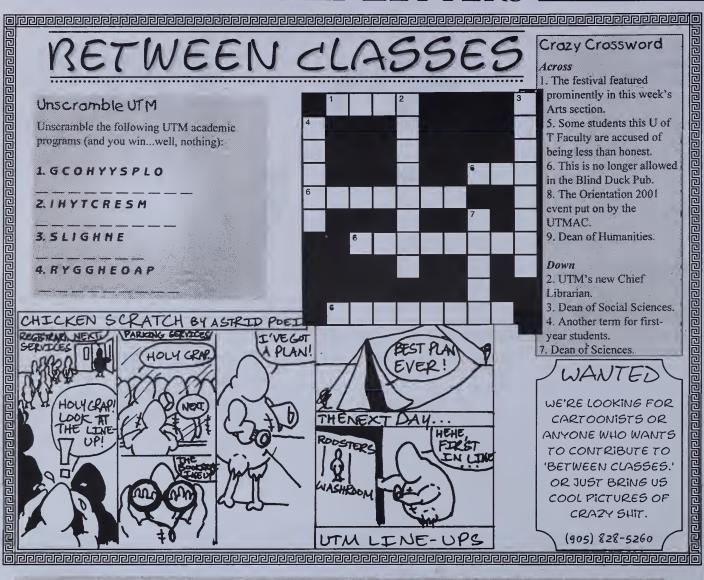
Jon Lee

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### LETTERS



### Students' Administrative Council & University of Toronto Bookstore Book Bursary

### In financial need? Sacrificing meals to buy your books?

SAC, the U of T Bookstore, and the Office of the Vice-Provost, Students have created book bursary fund consisting of 150 \$100 Bookstore vouchers and 50 \$100 reimbursements for books!

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### One more letter...

Dear editor,

We appreciate last week's Medium coverage of on-going efforts to make the UTM Student Centre more vital to the lives of students. We would like to clarify an issue.

The Student Centre Events
Coordinator is being hired and
supported by a cooperative venture
of UTM students, student
organizations and the college. It is
an initiative of the Student Centre
Management Board and was
approved unanimously (by student
leaders, who form the majority of
the board, and faculty and staff
members).

We are undertaking this partnership together, and we look forward to working with the Medium to make this position, and ultimately the Student Centre, a success.

Sincerely,

SCMB Board members Erick Mackinlay, Nicole Phillips and Mark Overton, and ECSU Vice President of Administration Adil Mirza

### TALKING HEADS

What are you looking forward to most about the upcoming school year?



"Drawing blood from my students in psyiology lah."

Scott Neal

"Good grades and good professors."

Iloma Rashquinha





"Chicks and sports."

Jon Lee

"Meeting nev and exciting people."



Talking Heads' by Melissa Verge

### ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

#### Reviews from the 2001 Toronto International Film Festival

Washington's grit is Training Day's highlight

MOVIE REVIEW

By Jennifer Matotek

dark cop drama with Ethan Hawke and Denzel Washington? I was convinced that *Training Day* was going to suck eggs, but it wasn't bad at all - I'd put it in the same category as a David Fincher (*Fight Club*) or Michael Mann (*Heat*) film for it's dark tone and pseudo behind-the-scenes look at how evil it is to be a cop these days. Not to say that *Training Day* is actually better than either *Heat* or *Fight Club* - I'd just put it in the same category.

Training Day, directed by Antoine Fuqua (The Replacement Killers, Bait), follows the 'training day' of police officer Jake Hoyt (Ethan Hawke). He's off to a moral and ambitious start, but before he can make the rank of detective, he has to spend some time with the meanest guy on the drug enforcement beat, Alonzo Harris (Denzel Washington). I was still



Above: Denzel Washington delivers a stellar performance in Training Day.

worried during the first two minutes that this movie was going to suck, but the minute I heard Denzel affectionately refer to Ethan as 'my nigger,' I fell in love with this film.

Washington's character, takes a different approach than most drug enforcers on the LAPD - he sets his stings up decades in advance, befriending, and bribing the

head honchos of the Los Angeles drug world from the inside. At the beginning of the film, he's uniquely and refreshingly unsettling, but as he progresses further into the film, you begin to realize that he also makes some very had, though calculated, choices.

Now I know you're probably thinking,

continued on page 9

### An unenjoyable Joyride

#### MOVIE REVIEW

By Jennifer Matotek

ohn Dahl's latest dribble of film noir, Joyride, is meant to be a contemporary, neo-noir spin on the thriller genre. And it is, to a certain extent, combining interesting plot devices and settings from classic films like Spielberg's directorial debut, Duel, and Hitchcock's Psycho, with the hilarious comic reparte of Steve Zahn. Such an indecisive mix of horror and comedy is dangerous, because after a while you're not sure when the movie wants you to laugh, and when it wants you to take it seriously. Ironically, this is the same problem that the main characters in this film encounter after pulling a prank on a psycho truck driver over a CB radio. The movie begins with college



Above: Steve Zahn is unsuccessful at making *Joyride* more fun.

freshman Lewis Thomas (Paul Walker, who you might remember as Reese Witherspoon's boyfriend in *Pleasantville*) deciding to buy a car so he can drive his dream girl, Venna (Leelee Sobieski), home for the summer holidays. But when Lewis finds out that his slacker

continued on page 8

#### Don't erase lowbudget *Tape*

#### MOVIE REVIEW

By Jennifer Matotek

ape is an intelligently written, deliciously evil film from the King of drug-abuse comedies, Richard Linklater (Dazed and Confused, SubUrbia). Ethan Hawke and Robert Sean Leonard - two extraordinary hotties star as Vincent and John, two high school chums who've become, respectively, a washed-up drug dealer, and a preppy upstart filmmaker. Based on the play of the same name by Stephen Belber, Tape explores the nasty things that friends will do to one another just because they can.

There isn't much plot in Tape, and a lot of talking - but I can tell you that it revolves around a conversation 'taped' between Vincent and John, about something terrible that happened in the past, and that Vince is determined to deliver to a mutual old flame, Amy, played by Uma Thurman. If you're an Uma Thurman fan, you should see Tape - not because Uma does anything spectacular in it, but because she looks so spectacularly beautiful.

Linklater does an interesting job filming this movie in digital video, wisely casting beautiful people in the lead roles. Digital video soaks up light more than film, and is often less forgiving – particularly if you don't know what you're doing, and because the film's tiny hotel room requires the director to cram his camera right into the actor's faces.

Tape's intelligent dialogue makes it easy for Hawke, Leonard, and Thurman to do a good job: all they really need to do is look good, go where they're supposed to, and have fun. At times, Tape feels like an episode of Herman's Head—each character speaks from the same brain, even though they have different voices, morals, and backgrounds. Tape's only flaw lies in Linklater's occasional 'tennis match' filming sessions during some argument scenes.

### SAC FALL 2001 BY-ELECTION

1st Nomination Period begins-Tues, Sept 18/01@9am 1st Nomination Period closes -Wed, Sept 19/01@5pm

2nd Nomination Period begins-Thurs, Sept 20/01@9am 2nd Nomination Period closes -Fri, Sept 21/01@5pm

- Mandatory All Candidates Meeting Fri, Sept 21/01 @ 6pm Hart House
- **♦ Campaigning begins Mon, Sept 24/01 @ 12:01am**
- © Campaigning ends Fri, Oct 5/01 @ 11:59pm

ELECTION FORUMS: UTSC • St. George • UTM

- ➡ First Day of Voting on ROSI Tues, Oct 9/01-7am to 11pm
- **◆ Last Day of Voting Wed, Oct 10/01-7am to 11pm**
- © Results
  Thursday, October 11, 2001

### Here are the vacancies in each constituency:

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Vice President Operations
Vice President Education 1
St. Michael's College 1
Innis 2
UTS 5
Architecture 1
Medicine 1
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Nursing 1
OISE 2
Physical Education 1
CIUT (89.5FM) 3
TYP 1

Students' Administrative Council www.sac.utoronto.ca



### Warm Water a product of a dirty mind

### MOVIE REVIEW

By Jennifer Matotek

know that I shouldn't make a blanket statements, but Japanese filmmakers have fucked up obsessions with bodily functions. Warm Water Under a Red Bridge, directed by 75-year-old Shohei Imamura, is obviously a product of an intellectual but dirty mind. Not that there's anything wrong with that I just wished that someone could have warned me before entering this movie that it was going to be really messed up and oddly intellectual at the same time.

Yosuke is a middle-aged Japanese businessman who's gotten totally shit on during the last few years of his life: his wife is leaving him, he is unemployed as a result of the Japanese recession in Tokyo, and is feeling really down. He visits a village on a far away peninsula on the advice of a smelly old tramp, who claims he has buried a buddha statue inside a pot in a house beside a red bridge. In the village, Yosuke bumps into a colourful cast of characters,



Above: In Warm Water Under a Red Bridge, Koji shoplifts whenever she feels the urge to spew water everywhere. (Don't ask. This film is so messed up.)

among them the mysterious Koji Yakusho, who he sees shopping in a local grocery store and follows home, only to discover that she lives in the house that holds the tramp's promised treasure. But Koji herself has a mysterious and powerful secret, one that makes the flowers around her home bloom out of season. (This is where the bizarre, fucked-up plot twist lies.)

Perhaps I'm being unfairly naive because I've never seen an Imamura film before - it's very possible that all of his films are this messed up and I'm just totally clueless. Fucked-upness aside, Warm Water Under a Red Bridge is a warm, compelling, and hilarious film that I hope to see again one day, preferably late at night on CFMT when I am totally drunk.

### Director Robert I. Douglas creates an *Iceland Dream*

MOVIE REVIEW

BY JENNIFER MATOTEK

The is Toti and why should a film audience care? Icelandic director Robert I. Douglas tries to answer this question with his character study of a film, *The Icelandic Dream*, which focuses on a few months of events in the life of an assoholic character named Toti.

Toti is basically a total loser. He's the guy who parks his car in your reserved parking spot. He's the friend who always borrows money from you without paying you back. He's the kind of guy we probably already encounter, or imagine encountering, when someone cuts you off in traffic or refuses to do a favour for you without any good reason. Douglas structures this lengthy (often arduously mundane) portrait as though it were a dogma 95 film or mock-umentary, following Toti around during his everyday life and recording his encounters without

being obviously manipulative or judgemental, cutting in oddly candid interviews with the people who surround and are affected by Toti. It creates an interesting role for the camera, leaving the audience to continually wonder who the camera man is, and why the camera person is interested in someone as boorish, immature, and self-centred as Toti.

Toti's life sucks almost as badly as his favorite soccer team - in fact, there is an odd and suggestively mystical correlation between how badly they play and how badly Toti makes choices in his own life. But then, oddly and miraculously, when things couldn't get any worse, Toti's luck starts to change.

The Icelandic Dream isn't a great movie, but it is a good one - a well-intentionned character study that's full of laughs and interesting documented. It lacks a riveting and intriguing focus, but it does tell a simple story in a ramblingly amateur fashion - so if you want to check out what's current in the Icelandic film scene, The Icelandic Dream would probably be a good place to start.

### The misogyny of John Dahl's Joyride

continued from page 7

older brother, Fuller (Steve Zahn), got locked up in the slammer, he decently puts up the money for his brother's bail and invites him along for the trip. Along the way, Fuller gets a CB radio installed in his brother's shitbox of a car, and that's where the trouble begins, as Lewis pretends to be a lonely truck driver out on the road, and urges the unbalanced "Rusty Nail" to a neighbour's hotel room later in the evening. The trouble begins when "Rusty" realizes he's become the butt of a practical joke, and follows Lewis, Fuller, and Venna across the country, scaring the shit out of them by following them around and nearly killing them

in his big, scary transport truck.

Maybe I'm reading into this film a little, but I got some sérious misogynistic vibes from Joyride. First of all, Leelee Sobieski's character, Venna, is reduced to little more than a set of continually perky nipples. I think this was a big mistake on Dahl's part because if he actually wants girls to see this film, he should make the only female character in the movie have some semblance of personality. It also doesn't help that Venna is the one who suggests this road trip in the first place - and that later in the film, Venna and her old roommate are used as helpless, gagged pawns by "Rusty Naîl."

Dahl hasn't really done too much

to develop the characters of Lewis and Fuller either, though, so perhaps I shouldn't complain - Paul Walker seems unable to project more than two or three different facial expressions throughout the entire movie. (Maybe he's still stuck in Pleasantville mode.) Steve Zahn has a lot of fun playing up Fuller's irresponsibility, but Dahl's made him too slimy for anyone in the andience to really care about. The end result of this lax character development is a thriller with some interesting shots that makes you root for the mysterious truck driver, instead of the vulnerable lead characters. Taking that into account, I'm surprised I didn't like Joyride.

### Hearts in Atlantis, brains in formaldahyde

MOVIE REVIEW

By Jennifer Matotek

The goopy, coming-of-age, supernatural drama of Hearts in Atlantis tells the story of a boy named Bobby (Anton Yelchin), and how his last childhood summer in small-town Connecticut is marked by the arrival of a strange fellow named Ted Brautigan (Anthony Hopkins.) Ted is weird. He goes into these stupid trances, and you don't find out why he goes into these weird, stupid trances until the end of the movie. I almost thought that Hopkins was going to explode into Hannibal Lecter at any moment and bite Bobby's face off. It would have made Hearts in Atlantis a more interesting film.

Even though it's directed by Scott

Hicks – who also directed the academyaward winning *Shine* in 1998 – *Hearts in Atlantis* seems untruthful for so many reasons. First, the story is told entirely through flashbacks. Second, it's unabashedly, snickeringly sentimental from the saccharine dialogue, to the premature character development, to the melodramatic, sun-soaked lighting.

Wwhat makes a director (or producer) think: "Hmmm... what the world needs now is a coming of age supernatural drama, based on a set of short stories by Stephen King'? Even though his novels and short stories have given birth to some great films he's let out some real pieces of flatulence, too. And kids "always love a fart joke," as Anthony Hopkins so astutely notes in this film. That's what Hearts In Atlantis is – sheer, slippery, stinky, empty flatuence. Like My Girl meets The Legend of Bagger Vance.

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### Channing, Stiles explore The Business

### of Strangers in brilliant directorial debut

MOVIE REVIEW

By Jennifer M atotek

iter-director Patrick Stettner's feature debut, The Business of Strangers, is oddly similar to Richard Linklater's Tape. Both are claustrophobic, set in hotels, and revolve around the issue of rape - or on a more basic level, the power dynamics of samesex friendships. The Business of Strangers is more specific than Tape - it delves into the forced relationship between Julie Styron (Stockard Channing), a middleaged executive who's as vulnerable as she is demanding, and her bittered junior consultant, Paula Murphy (Julia Stiles), after the two women are forced to 'layover' at

Things start off innocently enough, just as they do in Linklater's Tape - except that in The Business of Strangers, Paula and Julie get off to a bad start and warm up to each other over drinks in a hotel bar, bouncing subtle sexual inneuendos off one another and the other men in the hotel bar. Their warm friendship goes from innocent to evil when corporate headhunter Nick Harris (Frederick Weller) bumps into the two women and Paula claims to recognize him from her past.

Channing and Stiles deliver remarkably rounded, believeable performances, as Channing believably communicates throat business sensibility, and Stiles presents Paula as an atypical angsty-ridden and confused young girl. Working together, the two talented actresses carry Stettner's cleverly crafted script to the limits of plausibility and evil, exploring how easily humans can be persuaded to hurt one another when placed in a foreign environment. If you feel bitter about the lack of good roles for females in Hollywood, or the lack of good Hollywood films focusing on female characters, then check out The Business of Strangers - it's probably the best film that I've seen at the festival to date. Maybe it'll get nominated for an Oscar or some-



Above: Stockard Channing and Julia Stiles are brilliantly believable in Stettner's debut, The Business of Strangers.

### Training Day continued...

continued from page 7

blahblahblah, we've all seen stupid stories like this before - what makes Training Day any different? The difference with Training Day is it's spectacularly graphic and appropriate depiction of brutual, horrible violence. Training Day also represents the performance of Denzel Washington's career. I've never seen a character played by Denzel Washington jump so vividly off the screen before.

The entire film, second by second, keeps you guessing about the character's true motivations - like in Heat, or GlenGarry Glen Ross, where no one character is all bad, but no one's all good either - everyone has their own seperate system of morals.

Even supporting actors such as Macy Gray and Snoop Doggy Dogg - play their characters with rich and subtle subtext. I think this is a great credit not only to the direction of Antoine Fuqua, but screenwriter David Ayer. Ayer's written in some really standard plot twists and 'bizarre coincidences' - which is to be expected in films - but somehow, the combined efforts of Denzel Washington, Ayer, Fuqua and Hawke work together to make this film implausible yet enjoyable.

The plot began to unravel a little too quickly as Hawke and Washington fought each other for even longer than Nicholas Cage and John Travolta at the end of Face off. As a result, Training Day's final conclusion was a little bit confusing and awkward - but maybe I wasn't paying enough attention to the plot.





### SPORTS

### UTMAC's Playfair goes through, but some events nixed

By ASTRID POEL

Orientation 2001, held over the course of three days, began at UTM and ended at UTM.

On the first day, the University of Toronto at Mississauga Athletic Council (UTMAC) hosted Play-



phato/Melissa Varys

fair, an interactive motivational speech led by Jerry Ewan. Ewan directed frosh to interact with their peers in a fun and entertaining way, with activities that involved frosh jumping when Ewan called the month in which they were born and running and shouting in different directions of the Meeting Place, where the event was held. "The event works really well," UTMAC President lan Hazlewood said. "Frosh enjoy it and have a good time."

"The event works really well,"

– UTMAC President Ian

However, during the event, many frosh were seen standing outside of the Playfair group. Frosh leader Tara Rosocha com-

Hazlewood

mented, "I feel [Playfair] is a great way to meet people but I'm sure if the frosh leaders were given a chance, they could have done just as good a job."

Lunch should have run from noon until 1:00 p.m., but instead lasted until 1:30 p.m. As a result, Playfair ran over scheduled time and some UTMAC activities were cancelled, so that frosh could make it to the buses scheduled for 4:00 p.m. to take them to Centre Island.

The cancelled activities included ball hockey and relay races. "We had everything set up, relays set up, and the leaders were ready to run the events but every year we say that Jerry [Ewan] has an hour to do his thing. But he went for an hour and a half and it was sort of a spur of the moment thing," Hazlewood said, "We had to decide what could we take out,

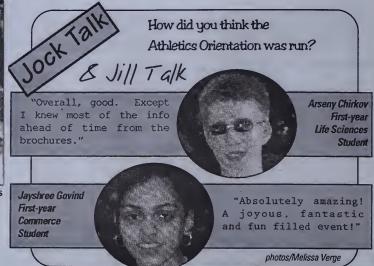
Frosh (above) participate in UTMAC's Playfair, but due to time constraints, events that were to follow Playfair were cancelled. (Left) Athletics Orientation volunteers kill time at their stations ten minutes before they discovered their events were cancelled.

but we were careful not to take out everything. We wanted to make sure that everyone still had a good time and everyone got to see everything UTM has to offer."

After Playfair, UTMAC ran a scavenger hunt and a rest station. At the rest station, frosh were given information on intramurals and athletics guides and the chance to sign up for interfaculty teams and singles tournaments such as badminton.

Hazlewood said, "It was unfortunate that we weren't able to hold those events, but the most important thing was getting frosh to participate."

Ewan also stressed the importance of participation, "The main reason that people drop out of college or university is not because of their marks, it's because they don't feel like they're part of the group."



C L U B S

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R



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How one UTM team spent their summer



BY ASTRID POEI

Sports is comraderie and no one knows that better than the UTM Lady Eagles' interfaculty ice hockey team. After a 6-2 loss in the finals to PEH/Pharmacy, the Lady Eagles saw their season come to a disappointing end. "Losing in the finals was a bad way to end the season," recalled goalie Debbie Medeiros. "We didn't want to go out like that." So when summer began, the Lady Eagles entered another ice hockey league, and this time, captured a 4-0 victory in the finals.

The Lady Eagles no longer played out of Mississauga, but out of Brampton and they kept the same lineup, but added Sir Wilfrid Laurier Varsity ice hockey player Carley Simpson to the mix. Final-

"Playing together this summer will definitely give us an advantage over the other teams this winter. We have more team spirit and more team comraderie."

— Gina Rajack

ly, the Lady Eagles changed their name to the Slowpokes.

Organized by UTM alumni Celine McDonald, the name "Slowpokes" was chosen to generate team spirit and to remind players that this was a "no pressure" league. The name change worked, as the Slowpokes dominated their league in the playoffs. However, they lost a crucial game two, 3-2. The loss meant that the Slowpokes would not compete for the champ-

(Above) The UTM Lady Eagle's switched their traditional dark blue and silver garb for a fun shade of yellow. (Left) The Slowpokes win the first face off in the finals.

ionship but for consulation. "I found that playing against the A-teams were a bigger challenge for me," Medeiros said of the loss. "I even think that some of the B-teams were a lot better than the teams we play in the interfaculty league."

Despite the loss in the playoffs, UTM would not lose in the consulation finals, winning 4-0. UTM veteran players Kim Shapcott and Cheryl Penfold added a goal apiece, while Simpson added two. Medeiros earned the shutout.

Fourth-year Crime and Deviance major and UTM player Gina Rajack said, "Although we entered the league for fun, we definitely got more playing experience by getting used to the different styles and skill levels of the other teams. We almost won the championships last year. Playing together this summer will definitely give us an advantage over the other teams this winter. We have more team spirit and more team comraderic."

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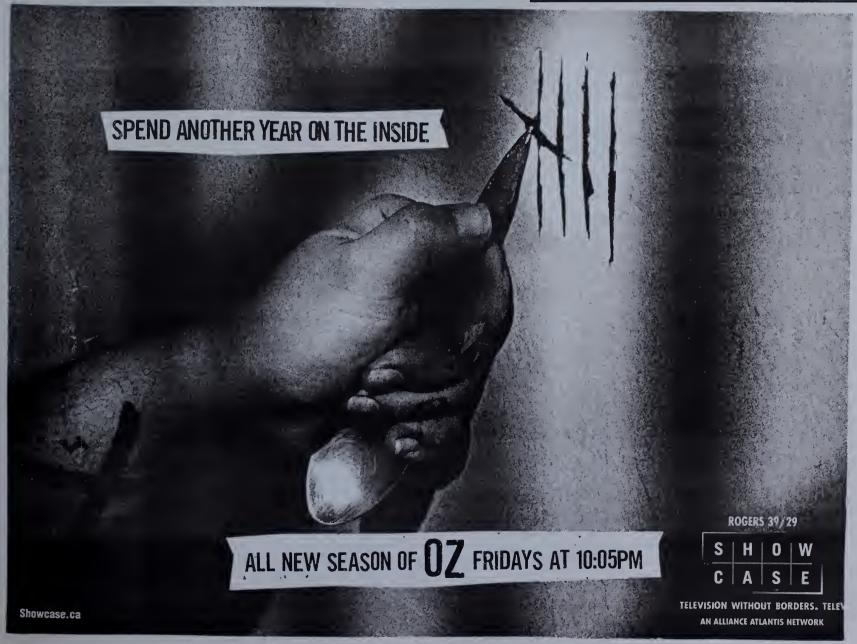


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